

"HOME SWEET HOMEDIDDLY-DUM-DOODILY"

Cast List

HOMER.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MARGE.....JULIE KAVNER
BART.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
LISA.....YEARDLEY SMITH
BENTLEY SALESMAN.....HARRY SHEARER
GRAMPA.....DAN CASTELLANETA
MRS. KRABAPPEL.....MARCIA WALLACE
NELSON.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
MILHOUSE.....PAMELA HAYDEN
PRINCIPAL SKINNER.....HARRY SHEARER
GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE....DAN CASTELLANETA
HEAD LICE.....PAMELA/MAGGIE/NANCY/YEARDLEY
BULLY GIRLS.....PAMELA/NANCY/MAGGIE
VOICE (O.S.).....HANK AZARIA
FEY MASSEUR.....HANK AZARIA
OFFICER GOODMAN.....HANK AZARIA
OFFICER NOBLE.....TRESS MACNEILLE
TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.).....HARRY SHEARER
SOOTHING VOICE.....HARRY SHEARER
MR. BURNS.....HARRY SHEARER
NED FLANDERS.....HARRY SHEARER
TODD FLANDERS.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT

ROD FLANDERS.....PAMELA HAYDEN
 MAUDE FLANDERS.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
 SCRATCHY.....HARRY SHEARER
 AUTOMATED VOICE (V.O.)..MAGGIE ROSWELL
 JUDGE.....TRESS MACNEILLE
 MAGGIE.....NANCY CARTWRIGHT
 FATHER IN BURLAP SACK...HARRY SHEARER
 SKINNER'S MOTHER.....TRESS MACNEILLE
 SLACK-JAWED YOKEL.....HANK AZARIA
 NEW TEACHER.....HARRY SHEARER
 COUNTRIFIED FATHER.....HARRY SHEARER
 REV. LOVEJOY.....HARRY SHEARER
 LENNY.....HARRY SHEARER
 HELEN LOVEJOY.....MAGGIE ROSWELL
 HOMER'S BRAIN.....DAN CASTELLANETA
 ALL SIMPSONS.....DAN CASTELLANETA, JULIE
KAVNER, NANCY CARTWRIGHT
YEARDLEY SMITH

HOME SWEET HOMEDIDDLY-DUM-DOODILY

by

Jon Vitti

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

SCENE 1

MARGE, SINGING, scurries about the kitchen preparing breakfast and packing lunch boxes for the family. The OVEN TIMER goes off and she removes a tray containing four perfect little squares of toast and serves them to Maggie.

MARGE

Here's your toast, Maggie. I Melba-fied it myself.

Maggie stacks up the squares, KARATE CHOPS them in half, and starts cramming the bits in her mouth. LISA enters.

MARGE (CONT'D)

Oh, Lisa, honey, I tracked down those old newspapers for your history project.

She indicates a stack of yellowed newspapers. The top headline reads: "AMERICA LOVES TED KENNEDY," with a photo of a slim, young, cheerful TED KENNEDY.

LISA

(EXAMINING PAPERS) Wow, Mom. You didn't have to go to this much trouble.

MARGE

Oh, it was no trouble. The hobos at the dump were very helpful. Except one man who seemed to have mental problems.

BART enters wearing a white dress shirt and long pants.

BART

(CLOSED-MOUTH MUMBLE) G'mornin'.

MARGE

Bart, it's class photo day. No dracula fangs.

BART

(STILL MUMBLING) But they told us to wear 'em.

MARGE

No they didn't. And put on this tie.

It picks up the color of your eyes.

She clips on a black tie. Passing by Lisa, she removes a sign scotch-taped to her back saying "I'm A Stupid Baby."

MARGE (CONT'D)

And don't put signs on your sister.

She starts to close the lunch boxes, notices a **SQUEAKY** hinge, oils it, and hands the boxes to the kids.

MARGE (CONT'D)

Now, keep the lettuce separate until

11:30. (TOO EXCITED) That way, the

lettuce stays moist and the bread stays

dry! (PRETTY CLEVER, HUH?) Eh? Eh?

LISA

Mom, you fuss over us way too much.

The kids leave.

MARGE

(CALLING AFTER THEM) Enjoy it now,
because when you're a grown up, you'll
have to take care of yourself.

HOMER runs in.

HOMER

(WHINY) Marge, there's a spider near my
car keys.

MARGE

You did the right thing by telling me.
Marge strides out.

MARGE (O.S.)

Shoo! Get outta here!

Marge comes back in, dusting her hands.

HOMER

Ahhh, that's better. Now that we're
alone, Papa.Bear has a li'l honey for
his Mama Bear.

Homer hands her two gift certificates. She reads them.

MARGE

(GASPS) "Good for a three hour getaway
at the Mingled Waters Health Spa."
Mineral bath, facial, massage... How
did you afford these?

HOMER

Oh, never you mind...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SPRINGFIELD BENTLEY DEALER - PREVIOUS DAY

A sign reads "Springfield Bentley." A banner says "Free Spa Getaway With Test Drive." Homer is in a Bentley with a salesman, pretending to examine it. He is in his usual clothes except for a monocle in his eye.

HOMER

(PHONY SNOB VOICE) What advantages does this motorcar have over, say, a train? Which I could also afford.

BENTLEY SALESMAN

Well, you'll notice how the heated gas pedal warms your feet while --

Homer checks the grip by spitting on his hands and rubbing them on the steering wheel. He **GRINDS** the gear shift all around and **GUNS** the car off the right side of the frame. It re-enters on the left a second later.

BENTLEY SALESMAN (CONT'D)

...gently massages your buttocks.

Well, Count Homer, shall we discuss the

--

HOMER

RE-RECORD

(NORMAL VOICE) No we shan't. Yoink!

He snatches the certificates and runs.

BACK TO SCENE

MARGE

Homie, this is so sweet. But I can't possibly go now... the sink is full of dirty dishes, the trash needs to be taken out, the living room is a mess...

HOMER

Oh, we'll clean up this afternoon.

MARGE

What about Maggie?

HOMER

I got my dad to look after her.

GRAMPA

(ENTERING FROM NOWHERE) BEHIND YOU!!

MARGE

(STIFLED SCREAM) Don't do that!

GRAMPA

(MIMICS STIFLED SCREAM) Don't do that!

HOMER

C'mon, Honey, you work yourself stupid
for this family. If anyone deserves to
be wrapped up in seaweed and buried in
mud, it's you.

MARGE

(RELUCTANTLY) Well, all right, but I'm
taking some of the ironing with me in
the car.

Homer whisks her out the front door.

SCENE 2

EXT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - FRONT STEPS - THAT MORNING

Bart's class congregates on the front steps for a
PHOTOGRAPHER. KRABAPPEL passes by, making sure that
everything is on the up and up.

KRABAPPEL

Tighten those braids, missie. Hoist
your flag, Dooley.

The little BOY looks down (offscreen) and pulls up his fly.

KRABAPPEL (CONT'D)

Nelson, you look adorable.

We see NELSON, who's been dressed in a plaid suit with a
bow tie and has his greased hair parted in the middle.

NELSON

I feel like punchin' myself.

Bart is scratching his head.

KRABAPPEL

Bart, stop scratching. You're messing
up your hair.

She starts to comb his hair, then her eyes pop.

KRABAPPEL'S POV

A few lice hop about on Bart's scalp. **MUSIC: STING.**
Krabappel lets out a **SHRIEK.**

KRABAPPEL

Lice?! How on earth does a boy get
head lice in this day and age?

BART'S FLASHBACK - MILHOUSE'S HOUSE - THE DAY BEFORE

Bart plays with Milhouse's monkey, letting it crawl on his
head. (**ANIMATOR'S NOTE:** It's a horrible little Rhesus
monkey.)

MILHOUSE

We bought a wicker basket from Pier One
and he was passed out inside.

BACK TO SCENE

BART

Hey, how come I get lice and nothing
happens to Milhouse?

PAN OVER to a grey-looking Milhouse scratching himself.

MILHOUSE

(SHIVERING) S-So cold. So very very
cold.

INT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - BASEMENT - A FEW MINUTES
LATER

A naked Bart, barely covered in a blanket, stands next to
Skinner as GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE gingerly places the last of
Bart's clothes in the furnace with long, old fashioned
tongs.

GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE

See ya in hell, ye wingless blood-
suckers! (DISGUSTED GRUNT)

The clothes erupt in flame.

HEAD LICE

(BARELY AUDIBLE TINY SHRIEKS)

SFX: SIZZLE

SKINNER

What kind of parents would permit such
a lapse in scalpel hygiene?

GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE

Well, ya better check out his sister.
She could be rrrife with them boogs,
too!

EXT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - PLAYGROUND - CONTINUOUS

The BULLY GIRLS have tied Lisa's shoes together and flung them over a telephone wire. Lisa jumps up and down trying to retrieve them, but falls twenty feet short every time.

BULLY GIRLS

(AD LIBS) Keep away! etc.

LISA

Hey, c'mon! Those are prescription shoes! I need them!

BULLY GIRLS

(DERISIVE) You have cooties! You have cooties!

LISA

No I don't!

SKINNER (OVER P.A.)

Lisa Simpson, report to the principal's office for head lice inspection.

A barefoot Lisa trudges across the muddy field toward the school. A soccer ball flies into frame and **SMACKS** her in the head, causing her to bite her tongue.

LISA

(SWOLLEN TONGUE) Ow! Mah tug!

VOICE (O.S.)

(WAY TOO LATE) Heads up!

INT. SPRINGFIELD ELEMENTARY - SKINNER'S OFFICE - A MINUTE LATER

A shoeless, muddy, slightly dazed Lisa enters.

LISA

(SWOLLEN TONGUE) Printhipal Thkinner, I need thum shoes.

SKINNER

Sweet Georgia Brown! Something is
rotten at the Simpson house.

He DIALS the phone.

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SCENE 3

EXT. CHILD WELFARE BOARD - STREET - A MINUTE LATER

An ALARM sounds and a gleaming Child Welfare Van speeds out of the garage a la "Batman." It runs over a kid's tricycle and PEELS OFF down the street. (Inside we see OFFICERS GOODMAN, a man, and NOBLE, a woman.)

EST. MINGLED WATERS SPA - SAME TIME

INT. MINGLED WATERS SPA - STEAM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marge and Homer, in towels, take a steam. Marge's hair is wrapped in a large toweled turban.

MARGE

(PLEASED MURMUR) This is so relaxing.

Homie, this was a wonderful idea.

HOMER

(CHUCKLES) Yeah. If that mafia guy weren't staring at us, I'd take off my towel.

OLD MAFIA GUY (O.S.)

Don't mind-a me. Look, I do it-a first.

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INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - KITCHEN - SIMULTANEOUS

Officers Noble and Goodman, holding clipboards and portable tape recorders, enter through the back door and are horrified. Dogs are BARKING, the TV is BLARING.

OFFICER GOODMAN

(LOW, PAINED WHISTLE) Whoa, would you look at this place.

OFFICER NOBLE

(INTO TAPE RECORDER) Sink full of dirty
dishes, trash not taken out, living
room a mess. (NOTICES OLD PAPERS)
Stacks of old newspapers... (APPALLED)
From twenty years ago!

She holds up a newspaper with a headline reading "40
TRAMPLED AT POCO CONCERT."

INT. LIVING ROOM - A SECOND LATER

Officers Noble and Goodman enter. The TV is **BLARING**.

TV ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Get ready, gamblers, for the World
Series of Dog Racing!

Grampa is asleep on the couch with a TV dinner tray and
racing form strewn in front of him. SNOWBALL II is on the
tray, eating what's left of the TV dinner. The cat sees
the workers, freezes in mid-bite, **MEOWS LOUDLY**, and rockets
off with the food.

Officer Noble **SNAPS** a flash photo of Grampa, startling him
awake.

GRAMPA

(INCOHERENT BABBLE)

OFFICER GOODMAN

(INTO TAPE RECORDER) A disheveled and
malnourished man found sleeping in his
own filth. Seems confused and
dehydrated.

OFFICER NOBLE

Where is the baby?

GRAMPA

That's her, ain't it?

He points to Maggie, who is **DRINKING WATER** out of the dog's dish. Officer Noble **GASPS**.

GRAMPA (CONT'D)

Kids love that water.

She runs over to pick up Maggie, revealing the "I'm a stupid baby" sign taped to her belly.

OFFICER NOBLE

Oh my Lord!

OFFICER GOODMAN

Stupid babies need the most attention.

INT. MINGLED WATERS SPA - HERBAL BATH ROOM - SAME TIME

Homer and Marge luxuriate in an herbal bath, as **NEW AGE MUSIC PLAYS**.

SOOTHING FEMALE VOICE
FROM SPEAKER

All is well... all is well... You are
floating away on a soft cloud of --

EFFICIENT MALE VOICE
FROM SPEAKER

(LOUD AND CLEAR) Turn tape over!..

We hear loud **CLICKING** and **REWINDING SOUNDS**.

HOMER AND MARGE

(CONTENTED SIGH)

SCENE 4

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - A LITTLE WHILE LATER

Bart and Lisa have been brought home. Bart is wearing a burlap sack marked "ONIONS" with a rope for a belt. Lisa is wearing tied garbage bags for shoes.

OFFICER NOBLE

(TO BART AND LISA) Children, where are
your parents?

LISA

(NORMAL VOICE) I don't know. They
should be here.

OFFICER GOODMAN

Yes. They should be here.

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Goodman grimly shakes his head and **CLUCKS** his tongue.

GOODMAN (CONT'D)

Those parents better have a good
excuse.

Just then a blissful Marge and Homer enter, holding hands
like teenagers.

HOMER

I love gettin' away from this dump.

MARGE

It's like I'm on some wonderful drug!

OFFICER GOODMAN

(STILTED THROAT-CLEARING NOISE)

Homer and Marge look around.

MARGE

What's going on here?

OFFICER GOODMAN

(SHOWING BADGE) Child Welfare, Ma'am.

OFFICER NOBLE

Here's a little bedtime reading.

She hands Marge her clipboard.

MARGE

(HORRIFIED MURMUR) Squalid hell hole...
toilet paper hung in improper overhand
fashion... Dogs mating on dining room
table?

She glares at Santa's Little Helper, who **WHIMPERS** and looks
away in embarrassment.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - A MINUTE LATER

The child welfare officers are leading Bart, Lisa and
Maggie to their van.

MARGE

(VERY ALARMED) What are you doing with
my children?!

OFFICER NOBLE

We're taking them where you can't get
them.

MARGE

(GRASPING AT KIDS) What?! No! You
can't! I won't let you!

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The social workers load the kids into the van and close the
door with an **OMINOUS CLANG**.

OFFICER GOODMAN

(REASSURING) Now just relax, kids. All
we're doing is taking you to a

(SURPRISINGLY SINISTER) foster home!

As Homer and Marge watch in shock, the van slowly pulls
away. We see the kids' faces pressed against the back
window. Suddenly, the van takes a quick U-turn and pulls
into the Flanders' driveway.

FLANDERS

(WAVING HELLO) Heydilly-ho! Welcome to
your new home, neglect-areenos!

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. FLANDERS HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

SCENE 5

Bart, Lisa, and Maggie get out of the van warily. NED and Maude are joined by their kids.

OFFICER GOODMAN

Kids, meet your new foster family.

TODD / ROD

We love you!

Todd (younger son) hugs Bart heartily as Rod places leis on each of the kids.

BART

Uh, please don't hug me. It sickens me.

MAUDE

I don't judge Homer and Marge, that's for a vengeful God to do.

FLANDERS

Mmm-hmm. All we want to do is give you kids a good home until they get their act together.

LISA

You don't understand. Mom and Dad take good care of us.

At that moment one of her teeth falls out with a PLINK.

LISA (CONT'D)

(WHISTLES WHILE SHE TALKS) That was a baby tooth... it was loose...

The adults look at each other knowingly.

OFFICER NOBLE

Don't you worry, little girl. We'll
get you some nice county dentures.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Between the Simpson and Flanders houses, the POLICE finish putting up sawhorses with flashing lights and Child Welfare Department yellow crime scene tape.

A devastated Homer and Marge read the official order, which begins with a large "Attention: Negligent Parents."

MARGE

Parents are not to communicate with
children and must stay at least 100
feet away at all times...

Homer turns to Grampa.

HOMER

We leave you the kids for three hours
and the county takes them away?!

GRAMPA

Oh, bitch, bitch, bitch.

He exits. A dejected Marge and Homer enter the house.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - FOYER - CONTINUOUS

MARGE

I can't believe I put my own pleasure
ahead of my home and family. That is
so like me.

HOMER

Oh, Marge, don't blame yourself. I'm the terrible parent. The boy bugs the hell outta me, I can't help Lisa with her homework.

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HOMER

RE-READ (CALMER) ***

The only thing I'm fit to take care of is a houseplant.

CUT TO:

A neglected, dried-up houseplant. A leaf drops off.

HOMER (CONT'D)

Lousy houseplant! (GRUNTS)

He starts strangling the houseplant. Dead leaves flutter to the ground. Homer sinks in despair and **SIGHS**.

INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - PLAYROOM - NEXT DAY

The Simpson and Flanders kids are all there. Rod, wearing a hat with a press card, takes a newspaper off a toy printing press and takes it to Todd, who is wearing an editor's visor. The newspaper's headline reads, "PLAYTIME IS FUN."

TODD

Go with it!

Rod and Todd exchange a thumbs-up. Todd walks over to Bart who is also using a printing press.

BART

Here you go, Todd. The city edition.

He holds up the newspaper he's made with a headline that reads "EXTRA EXTRA - TODD SMELLS."

ROD

Bart, I don't know if this should be an extra.

TODD

Is your source on this reliable?

BART

(EXASPERATED NOISE. TURNS TO LISA) I hate this place.

LISA

(LOOKING AROUND) Yeah. It seems like our house, but everything's got a creepy Pat Boone-ish quality to it.

Flanders enters holding a tray with odd-looking treats on it.

FLANDERS

Hey, kids! Nachos, Flanders-style!

That's cucumbers with cottage cheese.

Bart takes a bite of one.

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BART

(CHEWING) I feel food, but I can't taste anything.

Bart SPITS it out.

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FLANDERS

Oh, Bart. I know you're still getting adjusted here. (INDULGENTLY) Tell you what. We'll do whatever you want to do.

BART

Watch Itchy and Scratchy!

FLANDERS

(FRIENDLY CHUCKLE) Well, I guess a little television won't hurt.

(CONFIDENTIAL ASIDE) I used to let the boys watch "My Three Sons," but it got 'em all worked up before bedtime.

Flanders finds his remote control, **BLOWS** some dust off, and presses a button.

ON TV

The art card reads: Itchy and Scratchy in "Foster Pussycat! Kill! Kill!"

SCRATCHY relaxes in a rocking chair reading a magazine called "Nice." The doorbell **RINGS**. Scratchy looks through the peephole and sees a basket on the porch. He disarms the security alarm, unlocks a dozen locks, picks up a shotgun, and opens the door.

Inside the basket is ITCHY wearing a baby bonnet and sucking on a bottle. Scratchy drops the gun, clasps his hands and **SIGHS**; hearts appear around his head. He picks up "Baby Itchy" and hugs him. Itchy **BREAKS** his bottle and stabs Scratchy again and again with the jagged end. Scratchy **SCREAMS**, then collapses on the doorstep. Itchy runs into Scratchy's house, emerges carrying Scratchy's TV set and runs off down the street **SNICKERING**.

SCRATCHY

(WEAKLY) Why? Why? (AS HE IS DYING)

My only son. (DIES)

The end.

ON COUCH

Bart and Lisa **LAUGH** as usual. PAN OVER to the ashen-faced, stricken Flanders kids.

ROD

Daddy, what's the red stuff coming out
of Kitty's ears?

FLANDERS

(COVERING) Uh, er, that's just
raspberry jam.

TODD

Dad, should I poke Rod with a sharp
thing like the mouse did?

FLANDERS

No, son. (GRAVELY) No sirree, Bob.

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Homer is peering through the blinds at the Flanders house.

MARGE

Can you see them?

HOMER

I can see Lisa... but it might be a
starfish. (GRABS PHONE AND DIALS;
HEAVES LOUD SIGH) I've gotta call 'em!

AUTOMATED VOICE (V.O.)

The number you have dialed can no
longer be reached from this phone...
you negligent monster.

Homer hangs up sadly and **GROANS**.

MARGE

That's it. We're going downtown to
get our kids back.. Right now!

EXT. SWARTZWELDER COUNTY COURTHOUSE - DAY SCENE 6

Outside is a statue of a mounted John Swartzwelder wearing a spiked Kaiser helmet.

INT. COURTHOUSE - COURTROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marge and Homer plead their case to a JUDGE.

MARGE

We've always tried to be good parents.
Please, I'm begging you, one mother to
another -- you must have a family.

JUDGE

No, I don't care for children.

MARGE

(DISGUSTED SOUND)

Marge sits, defeated. Homer jumps up.

HOMER

Now wait a minute! Okay, I'm not gonna
win Father of the Year. In fact, I'm
probably the last guy in the world who
should have kids. (THINKS) Wait, can I
start again? Fathering children is the
best part of my day... I'd do anything
for Bart and Lisa!

JUDGE

(LOOKING AT FILE) And Margaret?

HOMER

Who? Lady, you got the wrong file.

MARGE

(WHISPER) It's Maggie!

HOMER

Oh, Maggie. I got nothing against
Maggie.

JUDGE

I can see you sincerely want your
children back. But you have a lot to
learn about being parents. Before I
can return your children, you'll have
to complete a course called Family
Skills. It teaches parents to listen
to their...

HOMER

Communication. Gotcha.

JUDGE

But it's important to...

HOMER

Listen. Yes, I know.

JUDGE

But there's more to it than...

HOMER

(SNAPPING, LOUD) I have listening
skills!

JUDGE

Mr. Simpson, would you please --

HOMER

Shut up, Judge!

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INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

As a happy Maggie watches, Flanders holds a napkin in front of his face, then pops his head up, each time making a new funny face.

FLANDERS

Peek-a-boo! I see you!

MAGGIE

(GIGGLES)

FLANDERS

Peek-a-boo! I see you!

MAGGIE

(GIGGLES)

Bart and Lisa watch and wonder.

BART

I never heard Maggie laugh like that before.

LISA

Well, when was the last time Dad gave her that kind of attention?

BART

When she swallowed that quarter, he spent all day with her.

LISA

I thought I could ride this thing out, but everything's just too weird here.

BART

I know. They put honey on their pancakes instead of maple syrup.

LISA

And they read Newsweek instead of
nothing.

FLANDERS

(NOTICING BART AND LISA) C'mon, you
Gloomy Gusses. Who's up for a big bowl
of non-fat ice milk?

TODD

I want wintergreen!

MAUDE

Unflavored for me!

Bart and Lisa exchange a wary look.

EXT. FAMILY SKILLS CLASSROOM

An exterior establishing shot shows a door marked "Family
Skills Class." A festive banner with a smiley face reads:
"Welcome Unfit Parents!"

INT. CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marge is standing. The rest of the class is made up of a
variety of low-lives:

MARGE

(SADLY FINISHING UP) ...and then I saw
my boy in a burlap sack and they told
me he had lice! (SNIFFS)

A FATHER stands up. He's scratching himself and wearing a
burlap sack.

FATHER IN BURLAP SACK

(IMPATIENT) Is this story goin'
somewhere?

OFFICER GOODMAN

All right. Easy there, Flub. We're
all gonna get a chance. Mrs. Skinner,
why are you here?

She holds up a picture of Principal Skinner.

SKINNER'S MOM

The county is threatening to take my
Seymour away. We had another fight
over the inflatable bath pillow.

(GETTING IRKED) I kept screeching and
screeching at him but--

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OFFICER GOODMAN

(TO CLASS) All right... Very good.

Now, who knows how the Skinners could
have resolved this problem...

A bunch of waving hands go up.

OFFICER GOODMAN (CONT'D)

...without resorting to violence...

All the hands go down. One hand goes up.

OFFICER GOODMAN (CONT'D)

...or childish name-calling?

The hand goes down.

OFFICER GOODMAN (CONT'D)

Anybody? Okay, that's okay, because making a happy home isn't like flipping on a light switch.

SLACK-JAWED YOKEL

(CONFUSED) Light switch?

OFFICER GOODMAN

There are a lot of little tricks to it, things you should have learned a long time ago. (SLIGHTLY CONDESCENDING)
Such as: If you leave milk out, it can go sour. Put it in the refrigerator, or failing that, a cool, wet sack...

A shot of the wall clock DISSOLVES to two hours later. *
Over the dissolve we hear:

OFFICER GOODMAN (V.O.) ***

...it's called kitty litter and it's available at most pet stores...

BACK TO SCENE *

OFFICER GOODMAN (CONT'D)

And put your garbage in a garbage can, people. I can't stress that enough.
Don't just throw it out the window.

MARGE

(TO SELF) This is so humiliating.

HOMER

(WRITING FURIOUSLY, TO SELF) Garbage
in garbage can. Makes sense.

INT. FLANDERS' HOUSE - GUEST BEDROOM - LATER SCENE 7

Flanders has just tucked Bart and Lisa in.

FLANDERS

Nighty night, my sweet li'l foundling-
a-dings.

BART

But it's only 7 o'clock.

LISA

(SHIELDING HER EYES) Yeah. The sun is
still out.

Lisa lifts the windowshade to reveal a very bright,
sunny day. Kids LAUGH and play outside.

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Ned lowers the shade.

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BART / LISA

(SIGH)

Ned walks across the hall to the master bedroom where we
see Maggie in her crib waiting eagerly for him. Ned and
Maude stand by the crib, singing Maggie a lullaby (to the
tune of Sonny & Cher's "I Got You, Babe.")

MAUDE

They say your folks can't pay the rent/
So we're watching you by act of
government.

NED

Well, I don't know if the allegations
are true / But you got us, and baby, we
got you.

MAUDE / NED

Babe. We got you, babe.

Maggie rocks back and forth enjoying the song and beaming
at the Flanderses.

IN THE KIDS' ROOM

LISA

You know, Maggie hasn't been a Simpson
as long as us. I think she's beginning
to forget Mom and Dad.

BART

SCENE 7 (CONT'D)

(FONDLY) Remember how Mom used to
microwave our underwear on cold days?

LISA

Or the way Dad used to call the radio
station with fake traffic tips?

BART / LISA

(CHUCKLE THAT ENDS IN NOSTALGIC SIGH)

LISA

They're ten feet away and we can't even
talk to them. I wish I could tell them
how much I miss them.

The CAMERA MOVES through the wall and into...

INT. SIMPSON HOUSE - UPSTAIRS HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Homer and Marge wander through the empty upstairs. They walk by Lisa's room and see her saxophone lying on her bed.

MARGE

It's so quiet here without the kids.

HOMER

What I wouldn't give to hear Lisa play
another one of her jazzy tunes.

He picks up the saxophone and speaks into the mouthpiece,
pretending to play.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SINGING KAZOO-LIKE TO BEETHOVEN'S
FIFTH) Saxa-ma-phone. Saxa-ma-phone.

(WISTFUL SIGH)

MARGE

I miss the way Bart would say something
and then say "dude."

HOMER

I wish I knew something about the baby
I could miss now.

MARGE

You mean Maggie?

HOMER

That's it.

MARGE

We've never been separated from the
kids for so long. I don't know how
much more I can take.

We hear the DOORBELL ring in an obnoxious repetitive manner.

HOMER / MARGE

(ECSTATIC) There's Bart's ring!

Homer and Marge dash down the stairs and fling open the door. Their faces fall--there's no one there. They start to close the door, then notice something tucked under the welcome mat. Intrigued, Homer picks it up and sees that it's the homemade Flanders newspaper.

HOMER

(READING) Todd Smells. Aw, I already
knew that.

MARGE

Well, look at the other side.

CLOSE UP on the newspaper. Homer turns it over. The banner headline reads: "Simpson Kids Miss Mom & Dad." Homer puts his arm around Marge and pulls her close.

FADE OUT:

HOMER/MARGE

(SIGH)

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. FAMILY SKILLS CLASS

SCENE 8

The Slack-Jawed Yokel sits in front of the class on Homer's lap.

OFFICER GOODMAN

Okay, let's see if we've learned anything. I want you two to simulate a typical household problem... Go!

SLACK-JAWED YOKEL

Paw, I cut myself on the screen door again.

HOMER

(STARTS TO STRANGLE HIM) Why you cotton pickin' --

HOMER/SLACK-JAWED YOKEL

(ALTERNATING STRUGGLE SOUNDS)

He pauses, turns and sees the teacher and class on the edge of their seats, scrutinizing him with over-the-top intensity.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(CATCHES SELF) No! I've gotta pass this class for my kids. (THEN, SWEETLY) Son, let's stop the fussin' and a-feudin'.

SLACK-JAWED YOKEL

(VOICE CRACKING) I love you, Paw!

HOMER

(VOICE CRACKING) I love you, Cletus!

They hug, **LAUGHING** and **CRYING**. The class stands and **APPLAUDS**. Several fathers **SHOOT GUNS** in the air.

INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

The Simpson kids, Flanders kids, Ned, and Maude sit in a circle on the rug. Maggie is on Flanders' lap.

FLANDERS

Well, children, it's Saturday night, so
what say we let our hair down and play
Bombardment...

BART AND LISA

Yay!

FLANDERS

...of Bible questions.

ROD AND TODD

Yay!

Ned walks to a long shelf containing many Bibles, *
including: The Good News Bible, The King James Bible, NIV,
The Hebrew National Bible, The Aramaic Septuagint,
Samaritan Pentateuch, Vulgate of St. Jerome, The Thump-
Resistant Bible, Holy Bible!, The Bible According To Hoyle,
Today's Family Gnostic Bible, and Who Begat Whom.

FLANDERS

Which version shall it be?

TODD

St. James!

ROD

The Vulgate of St. Jerome!

FLANDERS

Vulgate it is.

TODD

(DISAPPOINTED SOUND)

Ned takes down a bible and opens to a random page.

FLANDERS (CONT'D)

Okay. For one gold star: What Persian king exempted the Levites from taxation?

ROD

Ataxerxes!

FLANDERS

Righty-o!

He licks a gold star and moves to stick it on Rod's forehead. The star fills the frame and we DISSOLVE TO:

Later. The Flanders kids' foreheads and faces are covered with a wide variety of stars. Todd **COUGHS** and some more stars fall out. Maggie has one on her forehead, but Bart and Lisa have none. Flanders is now looking rather concerned.

ROD

I know!

FLANDERS

No, Son, we've got to let Bart and Lisa get one. (TO BART AND LISA) C'mon, this one's easy.

LISA

(BEAT) We give up.

FLANDERS

Well, guess! Book of Revelations... Fire-breathing lion's head... tail made out of snakes... Who else is it gonna be?!

BART

(UNSURE) Jesus?

FLANDERS

(ANGUISHED MOAN, THEN WITH GROWING
PANIC) Jes... ? Jes... ? Don't you
kids know anything? The serpent of
Rehaboam? (NO RESPONSE) The well of
Zohassadar? (NO RESPONSE) The bridal
feast of Beth Chadruharazzeb?

Bart and Lisa stare blankly.

MAUDE

(APPALLED) Why, that's the kind of
thing you should start learning at
baptism.

Another awkward silence.

LISA

(SOFTLY, TENTATIVE) Uh, actually,
the... (CLEARS THROAT) We were never
baptized.

FLANDERS

(FAINTING SOUND)

Flanders faints into his chair.

MAUDE

(TOO DISTRAUGHT) Oh, Neddle! Neddle!
Neddle!

She revives him with smelling salts. He looks at the
Simpson kids and remembers.

FLANDERS

No, that ain't gonna do it. (FAINTING
NOISE)

He faints again.

INT. FAMILY SKILLS CLASS - SIMULTANEOUS SCENE 9

The parents, in caps and gowns, walk up to accept their diplomas from Officers Goodman and Noble.

OFFICER GOODMAN

I'm very proud of you people. You've learned how to care for your children, how to maintain your homes, and you've all passed the drug test -- except for Marge. Marge, you tested positive for crack and PCP.

MARGE

Oh, my.

CUT TO:

SUPER: FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER.

The teacher reads the new results.

OFFICER GOODMAN

Okay, the re-test says you're clean.
Sorry about the mistake.

MARGE

The only thing I'm high on is love.
Love for my son and daughters. Yes, a
little "L.S.D." is all I need.

OFFICER GOODMAN

All right, sounds very good.

He hands Marge and Homer their diploma. (ANIMATOR'S NOTE: It reads, "WORLD'S MOST COUNTY-CERTIFIED PARENTS".) A COUNTRIFIED FATHER is receiving his diploma from Officer Noble.

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He points playfully. Everyone LAUGHS appreciatively, then throws their caps up in the air and FIRES guns.

INT. FLANDERS HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - LATER

A slowly recovering Flanders has a blanket over his shoulders and a cup of coffee. A spoon in the cup of coffee RATTLES as Ned's hand shakes. ***

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BACK TO SCENE

Ned is really upset.

FLANDERS

Jeepers H. Crackers! I'd better call
the Reverend!

Ned snatches up the phone and DIALS.

INT. REVEREND LOVEJOY'S HOUSE - BASEMENT - CONT.

Reverend Lovejoy, in a conductor's hat, is carefully
controlling his large model train layout. His wife HELEN
enters with a cordless phone.

HELEN

Ned Flanders is on the phone.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

(ROLLING EYES) Hello, Ned...

SPLIT SCREEN

We see an apoplectic Ned.

FLANDERS

(HYSTERICAL) Reverend... Emergency...

I... You... Simpson kids... Eedily...

Baptism... Oodily... Doodily-doodily...

(ETC.)

REVEREND LOVEJOY

Ned, have you thought about one of the
other major religions? They're all
pretty much the same. (HANGS UP)

Lovejoy looks down to see that his trains have crashed and
smoke is billowing from one of the tunnels.

REVEREND LOVEJOY (CONT'D)

Damn Flanders.

BACK TO THE FLANDERS HOUSE

Ned turns to Bart, Lisa, and Maggie.

NED

Looks like I'm gonna have to baptize
you myself.

Ned reaches over and **BREAKS** the glass on an "Emergency ***
Baptism Kit" hanging from the wall. Ned pulls out an
airhorn and pushes a button. It plays the opening strains
of the hymn "**SIMPLE GIFTS.**" Bart and Lisa exchange a
glance.

EXT. SIMPSON HOUSE - FIFTEEN MINUTES LATER SCENE 10

The police remove the sawhorses and tape between the Simpson house and the Flanders'. Homer and Marge, all dressed up, approach the Flanders' door.

HOMER

(HAPPILY) Kids, we're good parents now!

Get your asses out here!

MARGE

We missed you so much!

The happy **MUSIC** slows to a horror **STING** as they find a sign that says "Gone Baptizin'."

MARGE

(GASPS, INCREDULOUS) He's going to baptize our children?

HOMER

Oh no! In the eyes of God they'll be Flanderseseseses!

INT. FLANDERS' CAR - SIMULTANEOUS

Bart and Lisa are in the back seat next to Rod and Todd. Maggie is in the front, between Ned and Maude.

FLANDERS

Until this, I never thought Homer and Marge were bad parents. But now I know you kids need a less hellbound family.

MAUDE

Just sit back, and before you know it, you'll be part of the Flanders flock.

BART

(TO LISA) Ha ha. You're gonna be Lisa
Flanders.

LISA

You're gonna be Bart Flanders.

BART

(SCREAMS)

MAUDE

Oh, relax, Bart. Your sister Maggie
isn't scared.

BART

That's because she can't talk.

MAGGIE

(TO FLANDERS) Daddilly-doodily.

Maggie turns around to Bart and Lisa with a very creepy
possessed smile. (ANIMATORS NOTE: The head turn is halfway
between a natural one and the Exorcist rotating head).

INT. SIMPSON CAR - SAME TIME

Homer and Marge speed out of the driveway.

MARGE

Where we going? Where we going?

HOMER

Okay, okay, don't panic. To find
Flanders, I just have to think like
Flanders!

HOMER'S BRAIN (V.O.)

I'm a big four-eyed lame-o and I wear
the same stupid sweater every day,
and...

HOMER

The Springfield River!

EXT. SPRINGFIELD RIVER - RIVERBANK - A FEW MINUTES LATER

The kids are wearing baptismal gowns.

FLANDERS, MAUDE, ROD, TODD

(FINISHING SONG) I once was lost, but
now am found / Was blind but now I see!

FLANDERS

Today we write a new page in the

Flanders family bible.

He holds up the bible. The sunlight glares off the gold
letters "FLANDERS" on the cover.

SCARY CHURCH ORGAN MUSIC helps create the intercutting
atmosphere of the end of "The Godfather."

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREET

Homer speeds through a stoplight, engine **ROARING**.

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BACK TO RIVER

Flanders wades into the river leading the Simpson children
behind him.

FLANDERS

Who wants to be the first to enter
God's good graces?

Bart and Lisa point at each other.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREET

WORKMEN are delivering a new, enormous model train layout
to Reverend Lovejoy's house.

REVEREND LOVEJOY

Easy, easy.

Suddenly Homer's car ZOOMS through, SMASHING the layout to
smithereens.

REVEREND LOVEJOY SCENE 10 (CONT'D)

(LOOKING HEAVENWARD) Oh, why do you
hate my trains?

BACK TO THE RIVER

Flanders holds a cup of water over a nervous Bart.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD NEAR RIVERBANK

Homer SCREECHES to a stop next to the Flanders car and
jumps out. Flanders' bumper sticker reads, "I (HEART) YOUR
KIDS."

Homer reacts.

HOMER

(ENRAGED GROWL) Son of a bitch... (MORE
GROWLS)

He rushes through the woods, trips and BOUNCES down a
hillside, landing face down in the riverbank. He lifts his
eyes to see...

HOMER'S POV

The terrifying sight of Flanders starting to pour the water.

FLANDERS

Do you reject Satan, and all his empty promises?

HOMER

(SLOW MOTION DIVE) Noooooooooo!

SLOW MOTION as Bart looks up fearfully and Homer flies into frame and knocks him out of the way. The baptismal water pours over Homer's head. Homer thrashes around in slow motion like a movie monster being tormented by electric bolts.

HOMER (CONT'D)

(SLOW MOTION PAINED YELL)

NEW ANGLE

Back to normal speed. Bart and Lisa run up and hug Homer.

BART

Wow, Dad, you took a baptismal for me.

How do you feel?

Homer looks slightly beatific.

HOMER

Oh, Bartholemew, I feel like St.

Augustine of Hippo after his conversion by Ambrose of Milan.

FLANDERS

(ASTONISHED) Wait, Homer. What did you just say?

HOMER

I said shut your ugly face, Flanders.

FLANDERS

Oh, fair enough.

HOMER

Oh, there's my sweet little Maggie.

Homer holds out his arms.

ANGLE ON MAGGIE

She sits on the river bank in her cute baptismal robe. She looks at Bart, Lisa, and Homer. Then, confused, she turns and looks at the Flanderses.

MAGGIE'S POV

The Flanderses are sparkling clean and stand in front of blooming flowers and blue skies. A bunny hops past them.

The Simpsons are muddy and framed by barren trees and dark clouds. Frogs jump out of Homer's pants.

Maggie looks back and forth and starts toward the Flanderses, when suddenly she sees Marge's hair appear over the river bank. As Marge hurries down the slope, Maggie makes up her mind and rushes toward the Simpsons. Marge picks up Maggie and hugs her in a Madonna and child pose in front of the setting sun.

MARGE

Oh, Maggie, you're a Simpson again!

MAGGIE

(LOUD BELCH)

The reunited family hugs and heads for the car.

MARGE

So, what was it like at the Flanders' house?

HOMER

Yeah! Gimme all the dirt!

LISA

Let's see. Dirt... dirt... Well, there
wasn't really much dirt.

BART

There was a bunch of old paint cans in
their garage, though.

HOMER

(CHUCKLING) Old painty-can Ned!

ALL SIMPSONS

(SHARE A LAUGH AND AD LIBS)

FADE OUT:

THE END